

Forensic Anthropology Case Team

Purpose

FACT serves the Ohio community by assisting law enforcement agencies in searching for, recovering, and identifying human remains. The team comprises faculty and graduate students possessing a high level of scientific competence and ethical standing while promoting the highest quality of professional and personal conduct. FACT facilitates training programs for medicolegal, law enforcement, and search and rescue professionals. The team engages in outreach to dispel myths about forensic science and mentors students interested in forensic science.

Impact

FACT offers, at no charge, scientific expertise to the community in archaeological field methods and osteological laboratory methods to help resolve medicolegal death investigations.

FACT provides team members with opportunities for professional development, improving leadership and transdisciplinary team-based skills, and applying advanced training in anthropology and anatomy received from OSU.

In 2013, FACT participated in 12 cases across the state, including the search for War of 1812 soldiers buried in Fort Jennings, by using ground-penetrating radar.

K of C holds awards banquet, p3

Wildcats shut out Bulldogs in ACME, page 6

The DELPHOS HERALD

Telling The Tri-County's Story Since 1869

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Upfront

5K at the Relay correction

The Ohio Relay for Life 5K at the Relay on Sunday was a success. The cost is \$25 the day of the race and no T-shirt is guaranteed. DAAG offers terrarium class

The Delphos Area Art Guild will present Garden Building from 7-9:30 p.m. July 11 in the Delphos Public Library's First Edition Building. Brenda Horstman will help participants develop their miniature green thumb. Learn tips for selecting potted plants, the types of plants that can be used as terrarium, how to arrange for optimal aesthetics, balance and how to place the terrarium inside.

Forensics team surveys fort, burial sites

BY STEPHANIE GROVES Staff Writer
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FORT JENNINGS — Last fall, the Ohio State University Forensic Anthropology Case Team (FACT) began a survey of the Old Fort site, which contains the gravesites of 12-14 soldiers who died in Fort Jennings during the War of 1812, the final phase of the Revolutionary War.

On Thursday, the team of archaeologists and anthropologists returned to complete the survey of the site by using geophysics, the study of the Earth using quantitative physical methods.

The team used ground-penetrating radar (GPR) to dig deeply into the soil and measure ground disturbances in 3-D. This technology may provide the analysis to outline the fort or the gravesites.

Former Fort Jennings resident Julie Smith Wiley, Esq., said the continued research is in outreach from last year's efforts to pinpoint the historical data prior to the Bicentennial celebration. The original survey was hand-drawn in 1820 and depicted points and measurements, and showed the fort here," Wiley explained. "Aerial photographs and map, along with the survey, serve as overlays which help determine the fort's positioning.

The topography in the Auglaize River area has seen a lot of change, both man-made and natural, over two centuries. The fort site has been built on many times over and during the construction of the new highway bridge in the 1960s, at least 12 feet of fill was added at the edge of the river, and pushed up the bank. In addition, the river has eroded into the fort site, changing the topography of the land.

The OSU Forensic Anthropology Case Team (FACT) uses radar to survey the fort and burial locations in Ft. Jennings on Thursday afternoon. Students from left to right: Adam Kolatorowicz, Kimberly Swisher and Logan Miller, set up the site and equipment to survey the historic grounds. (Delphos Herald/Steph Groves)

Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved
Department of Anthropology
Department of Public Safety
Division of Anatomy

Community Partners Involved
Academy of Pharmacy of Central Ohio
Belmont County Sherriff's Office
Clark County Coroner's Office
Clark County Sherriff's Office
Columbus Police Department
Franklin County Coroner's Office
K9 Response Search and Rescue
Lima Police Department
Mansfield Police Department
Mount Tabor Cemetery Association
Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation and Identification
Ohio State Chapter of Sigma Xi
Ohio Valley Archaeology, Inc.
PAST Innovation Lab
Perry County Sherriff's Office
Powell Police Department
Search and Rescue Ohio
Six River Valley Chapter of the Archaeological Society of Ohio
Upper Arlington Citizen Police Academy
Village of Fort Jennings
Westerville Police Department



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2014 Graduate Student Award for Excellence in Community Service